

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A force sense imparting/inputting apparatus comprising:

an operation member capable of operating in both normal and opposite directions;

an electric actuator capable of imparting force in both normal and opposite directions to said operation member;

detection means for detecting an operating direction and an operating amount of said operation member; and

control means for controlling said electric actuator so that force in the opposite direction to the operating direction of said operation member can be imparted to said operation member in accordance with the operating direction detected by said detection means;

wherein said control means is set so that:

said —force in the opposite direction to the operating direction imparted from said electric actuator to said operation member increases at atthe start of the operation of said operation member from 0 to a predetermined upper limit value with anthe increase of the operating amount of said operation member on the basis of a predetermined function;

said force in the opposite direction to the operating direction imparted from said electric actuator to said operation member is kept at said upper limit value during the operation of said operation member; and

said force in the opposite direction to the operating direction imparted from said electric actuator to said operation member decreases at atthe finish of the operation of said operation member from said upper limit value to 0 with the increase of the operating amount of said operation member in the opposite direction to the operating direction of said operation member on the basis of said predetermined function.

2. (Original) A force sense imparting/inputting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said predetermined function is a linear function having a gradient of greater than 0.

3. (Original) A force sense imparting/inputting apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said operation member is disposed in such a fashion as to be capable of rotating in both normal and opposite directions, and said electric actuator comprises a motor capable of imparting torque in both normal and opposite directions to said operation member.